2013-14 Annual Report

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

www.shrf.ca

Vision

Building a healthy Saskatchewan through health research

Mission

The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation contributes to a healthy province by funding and promoting excellence in health research, promoting the benefits of health research, and enhancing capacity, including securing funds to support excellent research and researchers.

Values

We believe health research:

- is the ethical search for truth, knowledge, and understanding about human health;
- is an investment that leads to benefits for all Saskatchewan residents in many areas including health, education and the economy;
- includes both basic and applied research; and
- encompasses many dimensions including biomedical science, clinical investigation, health services and systems research, and research into the determinants of population health.

We are committed to good governance, including:

- good stewardship for the resources entrusted to us; and
- the highest standards of public accountability.

We will maintain the highest standards of professional conduct, including:

- integrity and honesty;
- respect for diverse perspectives and approaches; and
- clear, open, honest, and timely communication.

We will work co-operatively and collaboratively with others to:

- achieve mutual goals related to advancing health research in Saskatchewan; and
- ensure research findings are shared and used as widely as possible.

We strive for excellence and innovation in all our endeavors.

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (2013-14)

June M. Bold, Chief Executive Officer (retired January , 2014)

Patrick Odnokon, Interim Chief Executive Officer (February, 2014 formerly Director of Impact and Evaluation)

Rodney Antonichuk, Director of Partnerships

Shaz Azam, Director of Finance

Irene Blum, Accountant

Karen Glazebrook, Funding Programs Manager

Lynn Nastiuk, Executive Assistant to CEO

Pamela Riffel, Administrative Assistant, Information Systems

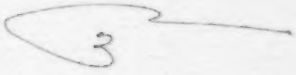
Tanya Skorobohach, Administrative Assistant, Research Funding

Letter of Transmittal

The Honourable Dustin Duncan
Minister of Health
Legislative Assembly
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

I am pleased to submit for your consideration the annual report of the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation for the fiscal period April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Baker
Board Chair

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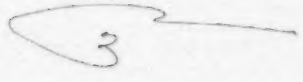
Letter from Board Chair

2013 was a year that included a mix of evaluation, analysis and thoughtful change for SHRF. With a little bit of looking back and a great deal of looking forward, the agency successfully and positively managed substantial organizational change while continuing to navigate, strengthen, and support the province's transforming health research landscape. Drawing on a history of trust, strength and impact, the agency effectively reinforced and advanced existing partnerships while demonstrating ongoing commitment to the development of new connections, collaborations and coordination across the health research spectrum.

Change brings important factors for consideration. SHRF's planning and activities for the upcoming year will take into account the renewal of our Health Research Strategy, making it a more focused and nimble approach that is aligned with the priorities of the Province of Saskatchewan's Plan for Growth and the Ministry of Health, the restructure of the College of Medicine at the U of S, the new CIHR initiatives, and the realities of all types of funding. Included in this planning will be a practical SHRF strategy that addresses how best to achieve the implementation of this new direction. Secondly, Saskatchewan has a growing population with some very unique demographic challenges and advantages. SHRF continues to encourage and support innovative and impactful research vital to community education and development, and remains fiercely committed to raising health research funding as a priority among our stakeholders. A third factor is the LEAN initiative of the Ministry of Health and the opportunities it brings for research to play a role in health care delivery. And finally, SHRF's new management structure and our Board succession will influence strategic direction and priorities for the organization. Although the considerations are many and varied, SHRF has demonstrated the leadership, experience, credibility, and support to meet these opportunities and challenges successfully.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the staff and management of SHRF for another exceptional year of service to the research community. I also want to thank Dr. Andrew Greenshaw, retiring Board member, for his extensive and valuable service to SHRF and finally, we recognize the long service and considerable contributions to health research in this province and across Canada provided by our outgoing CEO, June Bold. I also want to mention the strong support of SHRF by the personnel at the Ministries of Health and Advanced Education. I include in this expression of gratitude both Minister Duncan and Minister Norris who continue to recognize the essential value of health research.

Finally, on a personal note, I wish to say thank you to my fellow Board members for their courage and support through the past year. As this is my final message as the Chair of the SHRF Board of Directors, I wish the health research community all the best in their efforts to provide the people of Saskatchewan with the highest level of health care possible. I am confident they will continue to be well-served by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation now and into the future. Thank you for the opportunity to have served this exceptional enterprise.



Terry Baker
Board Chair

CEO Letter

For more than a decade, SHRF has valued the recognition received from our many stakeholders for providing trusted support, building capacity, and demonstrating effective and sound health research investment. The recognition not only reflects years of collaborative relationships with researchers and other stakeholders, but it also serves to fuel the commitment we have as we develop our new strategic direction going forward.

One of the key components of SHRF's mandate from *The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Act (2002)* is to assist the Minister of Health with the development of a provincial health research strategy and to support research according to this strategy. With the expiry of the 10-year plan (2004-2014) in March, SHRF undertook a comprehensive stakeholder consultation and environmental scan to gain insight, feedback, perspectives and guidance that would inform a revitalization of our priorities, practices and processes. The consultations will play an important role in shaping our future direction, guiding our activities for the next five years, and effectively aligning our focus and impact areas with the Government of Saskatchewan and health system priorities.

The consultation firmly established areas of strength for SHRF and provincial health research but also presented opportunities for change, improvement and/or expansion. While Saskatchewan has an excellent record of successful health research and the enterprise is seen as extremely important to the overall health, social and economic well-being of our residents, SHRF must leverage strengths to:

- Advance coordination, cooperation and greater integration between key stakeholders towards common health research goals;
- Position the agency as a trusted resource to advise the Minister of Health and government on research initiatives for advancing innovation and discovery; and
- Identify and engage new health research partners to develop additional and sustainable funding dollars.

SHRF will use the analysis and recommendations from the consultation to direct and develop our new strategic plan and to implement program changes. We greatly appreciate the time, effort and thought invested by our many stakeholders which will help shape our pathways to impact; we look forward to sharing the findings and the new strategy with our stakeholders in the upcoming year.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the ongoing progress of SHRF – government, researchers, board, partners, collaborators and staff – and would especially like to note the years of dedication and contribution to Saskatchewan's health research success made by outgoing CEO, June Bold. As we plan for exciting changes over the new fiscal year, we acknowledge and greatly appreciate the trust, investment, commitment, and support which continue to serve as key elements in our foundation and which will help guide our strategy and future development.

Patrick Odnokon
Interim Chief Executive Officer

AGENCY OVERVIEW

With SHRF's vision of *building a healthy Saskatchewan through health research* comes great responsibility; it requires the commitment and collaboration of many partners. There is an entire province of people who have entrusted SHRF with their investment, and who ultimately benefit from the outcomes and transfer of knowledge that results from health research.

As a publicly funded agency, SHRF has developed a governance model that ensures transparency and accountability in all of its activities. In addition, the grants SHRF makes are subject to rigorous peer review by health research experts to ensure expected standards of health research are maintained.

MANDATE

As defined in *The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Act (2002)*, SHRF's mandate is comprised of the following elements.

1) Seek and receive funding from government and non-government sources for the advancement of research.

2) Encourage and facilitate research in health sciences; the health-related social sciences and other health-related fields of study.

3) Assist the Minister of Health to develop a provincial strategy for research into matters associated with the health sciences, the health-related social sciences, and other health-related fields of study.

4) Provide funding to persons and agencies who are conducting or proposing to conduct research projects that are consistent with the provincial strategy.

5) Disseminate information to members of health-related professions and to the public respecting the objects of the Foundation, the research that the Foundation supports, the results of that research, and conclusions drawn from that research.

GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Board of Directors guides the activities of SHRF. Membership can be drawn from the health research community, government, health delivery system, business, and public at large.

A Governance Framework and Policies document sets out the Board's governance philosophy, its processes, and policies for managing the affairs and business of SHRF.

Membership consists of not more than 12 members who are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and who hold office for a term not exceeding three years, renewable once. Each board member also serves on a board committee. Currently, SHRF has two standing committees – Governance and Finance and Audit.

In 2013-14, a total of five board meetings were held. Figures in brackets indicate the number of meetings each board member attended.

TERRY BAKER (5)
(Chair)
Private business, Farming

DON SOMERS (5)
(Vice Chair)
Private business, Consulting

SYLVIA ABONYI (5)
University of Saskatchewan

WILLIAM ALBRITTON (5)
University of Saskatchewan

BRENT BROWNLEE (3)
Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education

ANDREW GREENSHAW (5)
University of Alberta

BETH HORSBURGH (4)
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon Health Region

SHANTHI JOHNSON (5)
University of Regina

DAVID KATZ (5)
Innovation Saskatchewan

GORDON MCKAY (4)
University of Saskatchewan

KATHLEEN PETERSON (1)
Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

TOM PORTER (4)
Private business, Consulting

PEER REVIEW

Grant selection processes are founded on expert peer review, where panels of active researchers and health professionals assess research proposals using excellence, relevance, and feasibility as key deciding factors. The peer review process ensures the question or problem being researched is important and original, the methods will indeed contribute to our understanding of the issue, the applicants have the appropriate expertise and support to conduct the research, and the approaches are ethical. Applications must also exemplify the stated objectives and priorities for the particular funding program as outlined in the program description. Panels provide feedback and suggestions to the applicants, and rate the applications based on excellence in each stated criteria. Only applications that are rated by the panel as very good, excellent, or outstanding are eligible for funding.

Our reviewers are not only instrumental in evaluating applications; they also provide valuable insight to SHRF about procedures, programs, practices, and trends in the health research community.

Our grant selection process has multiple steps. Peer review for programs where SHRF is partnering with other funding agencies may be done by the other agency, so long as SHRF requirements are met.

SELECTION STEPS

1. SHRF invites reviewers to serve on committees
2. Applicants submit applications to SHRF
3. SHRF staff screen applications for completeness and eligibility
4. Review committee chair, with SHRF staff, assigns applications to reviewers
5. Reviewers prepare in-depth assessments based on program criteria and excellence
6. Committee meets to discuss, rate and rank all applications
7. Committee recommends meritorious applications for funding
8. SHRF Board reviews and approves the committee's recommendations
9. SHRF offers grants and awards to as many recommended applicants as resources permit
10. SHRF staff ensures all conditions are met before authorizing payments to researchers' home institutions

Committee Membership 2013-14

In 2013-14 the following peer reviewers provided their expertise on a volunteer basis. Committee membership is typically for a three-year term.

Figures in parentheses indicate number of years served, including current year.

BIOMEDICAL PERSONNEL AWARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Darrell Mousseau (Chair) (3)
Department of Psychiatry
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Terra Arnason (3)
Department of Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Ildiko Badea (2)
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan

Oleg Dmitriev (3)
Department of Biochemistry
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Juan Ianowski (1)
Department of Physiology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Emily Jenkins (1)
Department of Veterinary Microbiology
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Dae-Yeon Suh (2)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Faculty of Science
University of Regina

Heather Wilson (1)
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization
University of Saskatchewan

Joyce Wilson (3)
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

BIOMEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Keith Bonham (Chair) (1)
Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

Veronica Campanucci (2)
Department of Physiology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Tanya Dahms (2)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Faculty of Science
University of Regina

Philip Griebel (1)
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization
University of Saskatchewan

Ali Honaramooz (1)
Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Peter Howard (3)
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Edward Krol (3)
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan

Scot Stone (1)
Department of Biochemistry
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

SOCIO-HEALTH, SYSTEMS, AND CLINICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Donna Goodridge (Chair) (1)
College of Nursing
University of Saskatchewan

Cathy Arnold (1)
School of Physical Therapy
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Angela Bowen (3)
College of Nursing
University of Saskatchewan

Roy Dobson (2)
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan

Brenda Elias (3)
Department of Community Health Sciences
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

John Gjevre (1)
Division of Respirology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Nancy Gyurcsik (2)
College of Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan

Paul Hackett (3)
Department of Geography
College of Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan

Gerri Lasiuk (1)
Faculty of Nursing
University of Alberta

Michael MacGregor (2)
Department of Psychology
College of Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan

Jennifer Nicol (2)
Education Psychology and Special Education
College of Education
University of Saskatchewan

Colum Smith (1)
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

COLLABORATIVE GRANTS AND AWARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tom Wishart (Chair) (5)
Department of Psychology
College of Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan

Ivy Lynn Bourgeault (2)
Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Ottawa

Richard Frayne (1)
Departments of Radiology and Clinical Neurosciences
Hotchkiss Brain Institute
University of Calgary

Tom Hobman (2)
Department of Cell Biology
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Alberta

Barbara Shay (2)
Department of Physical Therapy
School of Medical Rehabilitation
University of Manitoba

Hugh Townsend (1)
Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Karim Fouad (Chair)(2)
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
University of Alberta

Christopher Bailey (1)
Division of Orthopaedic Surgery
London Health Sciences Centre
University of Western Ontario

Kristine Cowley (1)
Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

Catherine Donnelly (1)
School of Rehabilitation Therapy
Faculty of Health Sciences
Queen's University

Soheila Karimi (2)
Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

Wolfram Tetzlaff (2)
International Collaboration On Repair Discoveries
University of British Columbia

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD REVIEW PANEL

John Challis (3)
University Professor Emeritus
Physiology, Ob/Gyn, and Medicine
University of Toronto

Sonya Corkum (2)
Knowledge Translation Consultant

James Dosman (2)
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Alignment to Government's Direction

STRATEGIC CONSULTATIONS

The provincial Health Research Strategy (HRS) expired in March of 2014. SHRF has a legislated role to assist the Minister of Health in developing a provincial strategy for health research (*The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Act*, 2002) and to support research according to this strategy. Building upon our learning through the term of the first 10-year strategy, stakeholder consultations will provide valuable input into developing a living document that guides the funding and focus of health research in Saskatchewan for the coming five to 10 years.

The overall outcomes of the strategic renewal process were to:

- Establish future directions to guide health research in Saskatchewan and the activities of SHRF for the next five years;
- Better align SHRF's focus and impact areas with the Government of Saskatchewan and health system priorities;
- Position SHRF as a trusted resource to advise the Ministry of Health and government on research initiatives for advancing innovation and discovery that support the health priorities; and
- Identify, define, and implement mechanisms to fund and advance health research to achieve the Government of Saskatchewan and health system priorities using the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) Measuring the Return on Investment in Health Research Framework.

The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth, released in 2012, set out the Government of Saskatchewan's vision for a province of 1.2 million people by 2020. While the plan identified principles, goals and actions to ensure Saskatchewan is capturing the opportunities and meeting the challenges of a growing province, the role of health research is not specifically referenced.

However, a number of key purposes and principles do have a direct correlation to the work and activity of SHRF, in particular "the purpose of growth is to secure a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people."

Clearly, quality of life requires a foundation of good health. Healthy families, healthy individuals and healthy communities require the continuous knowledge that results from an ongoing commitment to health research support and a strong health research enterprise. In return, growth provides the means for continuous investment and commitment to research and innovation.

SHRF connects to the Province of Saskatchewan's growth plan by ensuring its mandate is translated into a Strategic Plan which builds upon the priorities for health research that are described in Saskatchewan's Health Research Strategy.

STRATEGIC PLAN

SHRF's 2011-2014 Strategic Plan's main performance goal was to "grow Saskatchewan's health research enterprise through increased dollars invested in Saskatchewan from all potential funders of health research." The plan was structured around the following four strategic goals and accompanying actions:

1. Focusing on research priorities that reflect needs and strengths;
2. Supporting the research environment;
3. Encouraging the sharing and using of health research; and
4. Achieving excellence.

This year's Annual Report tracks our progress through the strategic goals and objectives of our Strategic Plan.

Strategic Goal #1: Focusing on Research Priorities

SHRF will use its assets and resources to focus on areas of need while capitalizing on areas of strength.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

OBJECTIVE: Targeted actions that advance provincial research priorities

To continuously connect with and adapt to the needs of Saskatchewan people and the health research community, SHRF engaged key stakeholders for input and guidance on its activities.

Acting on a recommendation from the Aboriginal Health Research Advisory Panel which SHRF convened in 2012, SHRF facilitated the Community Engagement Workshop. The workshop focused on strategies, processes, and methods for effective community engagement, particularly with Aboriginal communities. The day included an overview of ethics requirements, as defined in Chapter 9, "Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada," of the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans, 2nd edition (TCPS 2), as well as a variety of perspectives and examples of successful engagement between communities and researchers, and time for rich discussion and questions.

Saskatchewan's HRS has five priorities: health needs of specific populations (Aboriginal People and seniors); health systems and policy research; determinants of health status; public health including water and food safety; and synchrotron-based health research.

As part of SHRF's regular granting process all applicants are asked to list within which priorities their research proposal falls. Health Research Groups must be working in at least one priority area.

The 10-year term of the provincial HRS ended this year in March 2014. As the lead agency on the HRS, SHRF undertook consultations in the fiscal year to update the strategy, including: a review of directions, themes and trends, priorities, actions, and a consideration of new developments and emerging needs.

OBJECTIVE: Increased funding to provincial research priorities

The board approved $5.8 million for new research grants and fellowships.

SHRF continued to protect and allocate funding for health research priority areas – a minimum of 50% in fellowships and establishment grants and 100% in groups and chairs.

Employing the learning from our stakeholder consultations, SHRF and the Board will develop recommended changes to our strategy and suite of programs that allow for improved flexibility and researcher access while continuing to advance provincial health research priorities.

SHRF board-approved grants plus additional matching funds and partner invested funds are listed below for the HRS priority areas (Note: researchers can be working in more than one priority area, which means these totals will be different from the annual board approved amount):

- Health needs of specific populations (Aboriginal Peoples' health and seniors' health): $2,893,221;
- Health systems and policy research: $1,599,876;
- Determinants of health status: $1,687,849;
- Public health including water and food safety: $562,967; and
- Synchrotron-based health research: $789,977

SHRF worked with partners to fund excellent research in key areas:

- SHRF partnered with the Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) to announce Dr. Kalpana Kalyanasundaram Bhanumathy, now at the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, as the second recipient of the Terry Fox Postdoctoral Fellowship. Co-funded by SHRF and the TFRI the award provides $50,000 a year for two years to support research that increases our understanding of cancer, from early detection to diagnosis, treatment, and potential cure. This partnered fellowship brings a top-notch new scientist to Saskatchewan, adding capacity to tackle the cancer challenge; and

- The Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) Program is Canada's premier health services and policy research competition with a strong emphasis on partnerships and knowledge translation. This Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) partnership initiative supports teams of researchers and decision-makers conducting applied health services research useful to health system managers and or policy makers within the next five years. SHRF provides the required matching funds, subject to resource availability and fit with provincial priority areas. In 2013-14, one grant was supported and SHRF's portion of the funding was $120,000.

SHRF will identify funding priorities in consultation with the province-wide health research community.

The Saskatchewan Research Chair in MS Clinical Research may be awarded in 2014-15 in partnership with the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation; this would be a $1 million investment over five years, shared 50:50 with our partner.

Going forward, SHRF will continue to partner with other agencies to increase funding and impact of research on initiatives of importance to Saskatchewan and in line with current strategic directions.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Heather Hadjistavropoulos
Psychology , Arts
University of Regina

Improving patient access to internet cognitive behaviour therapy for depression and anxiety: Overcoming barriers and fostering innovation

Strategic Goal #2: Supporting the Research Environment

SHRF will use its assets and resources to develop stronger overall health research capacity in Saskatchewan.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

OBJECTIVE: Explore and implement expanded fund development role

Applying results from the feasibility study conducted in 2012 to explore a fund development model, SHRF reviewed and piloted approaches to advancing the fund development mandate. Partnership opportunities increased and a draft plan for development and partnerships was created; SHRF is currently building on the early stages of engagement.

- **Private Donors**
  - Elizabeth Harrison
  - Patrick Odnokon
  - RBC Foundation
- **Sponsors**
  - Genome Prairie
  - Phenomenome Discoveries Inc.
  - RBC Dominion Securities – Clliff Russell
  - Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
  - TD Asset Management – Dwayne Palchewich
  - TD Commerciall Banking

OBJECTIVE: Ensure appropriate monies are in place through core funding sources

SHRF funding held constant for the year and worked to sustain core programs and operations. However, application numbers continued to increase meaning success rates were lower than the previous five-year average and many very good proposals were left unfunded.

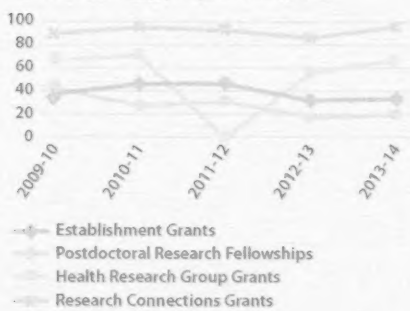
LOOKING AHEAD

SHRF will continue to seek health research dollars from other funding sources such as the business community, private sector and charitable foundations. Development of processes and polices for donations and partnerships are in progress.

Demand for program support is expected to increase. The restructure of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine, the ever-growing strengths of the University of Regina's research community, the upcoming announcement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST), a continued responsiveness to collaborative research efforts and clinician engagement are all factors to consider going forward. SHRF will continue to consult with government and other key stakeholders about innovative ways to address and support the growth.

Number of applications by program and year

Success rates by program and year



NOTE: There was no Health Research Group Grant Competition in 2011-12

OBJECTIVE: Growth in federal funding attained by Saskatchewan's health researchers

See Table 1 for a list of all partnership program grants and awards authorized during 2013-14.

The Sask-CIHR Regional Partnership Program (RPP) had a $2 million per year envelope provided by CIHR and provincial funds. Provincial funding consisted of $700,000 per year from SHRF plus $250,000 from Saskatchewan's Innovation and Science Fund (ISF) from the Ministry of Advanced Education and matching funding for doctoral students from the Universities of Saskatchewan and Regina. SHRF managed these funds with its university and government partners through a provincial advisory committee. The 2013-14 year was the final year that CIHR offered the RPP program.

SHRF will direct its federal matching funds to other strategic partnership opportunities with CIHR or other national agencies.

SHRF provided $25,000 in matching funds to the Saskatchewan application to CIHR for network development funds for the Saskatchewan Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) Network in Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations. The aim is to establish a pan-canadian network that will conduct coordinated and specific research projects led by member networks. The application from Saskatchewan has been approved in the first stage.

SHRF will seek and respond to opportunities to partner with CIHR and other federal agencies on areas of mutual interest, including anticipated opportunities related to CIHR's signature initiative called Pathways to Equity for Aboriginal Peoples.

Public health research plays a critical role in improving health and quality of life for many of our province's highest at-risk populations. In 2013, SHRF partnered with the CIHR's Institute of Population and Public Health, the Public Health Agency of Canada and others on the launch of the Applied Public Health Chairs Program to support successful applicants based in Saskatchewan. The program supports mid-career researchers focusing on programs of population health intervention research to promote health and health equity and who are connected directly with public health organizations in their research, mentoring and knowledge translation programs. The results of CIHR's competition will be announced in the fall of 2014.

SHRF has committed $500,000 over five years beginning in the 2014-15 fiscal year towards research taking place in Saskatchewan as part of the CCNA and will participate in partnership forums and governance related to this initiative.

SHRF partnered with CIHR and others on the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA), which aims to be "the premier research hub for all aspects of research involving neurodegenerative diseases that affect cognition in aging". The CCNA is organized around three themes: primary prevention, secondary prevention, and quality of life. There are a few Saskatchewan-based investigators on teams in the primary and secondary prevention themes. In the quality of life theme, there is a strong Saskatchewan presence with one of the teams being led by two principal applicants from Saskatchewan and including several other Saskatchewan-based team members. This team is looking at issues in dementia care for rural and indigenous populations.

SHRF is working with partners to provide matching funds for research in Saskatchewan as part of a $1.5 million multi-investigator research grant funded by Brain Canada through an international review process. SHRF will provide $75,000 over three years beginning in 2014-15, which will be matched by $75,000 of Brain Canada funds through the principal investigator. The team is looking at genetic alternations underlying brain disorders including severe migraine headache, epilepsy, autism, schizophrenia and bipolar disorders.

SHRF has designated a pool of funds for teams submitting federal applications requiring a provincial match and is establishing a process for selecting which applications to partner on to ensure a strong fit with SHRF's strategic directions and areas of provincial importance and to manage the available funding throughout the year.

SASK-CIHR RPP OPERATING GRANTS

Mohan Babu
Chemistry and Biochemistry
Science
University of Regina
Elucidating human G protein-coupled receptor function through protein and genetic interaction maps

David Cooper
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Age and sex-related changes in cortical bone cellular organization across the human lifespan

Roy Dobson
Pharmacy and Nutrition
Rein Lepnurm
Public Health
University of Saskatchewan
Supporting a greater role for patients in assessing the quality of care

Jo-Ann Episkenew
Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre
University of Regina
Kitinikewin misiwanacihisowin: Researching arts-based wellness promotion for suicide prevention among Aboriginal youth

Andrew Freywald
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
The role of Eph receptors in the regulation of Death Receptor-induced apoptosis in T-ALL

Graham George
Geological Sciences
Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
The molecular mechanisms of mercury toxicity

Linda McMullen
Psychology
Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
Antidepressants as placebo and panacea: Implications for evidence-based practice

Adil Nazarali
Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan
Transcriptional control of myelin gene expression and myelination by oligodendrocytes in young adult and aged mice

Valerie Verge
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Regenerative neuronal reprogramming: elucidating and enhancing intrinsic repair programs

CIHR RPP NEW INVESTIGATOR SALARY AWARDS

Brian Eames
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Deciphering the functional role of proteoglycans in the etiology of osteoarthritis

TABLE 1

Partnership Program	Awarded*			
	No.	Term (yrs)	SHRF $	Partner $
Sask-CIHR Regional Partnership Program				
Operating Grants	9	2	821,455	821,455
New Investigator Salary Awards	1	5	150,000	150,000
Partnerships for Health System Improvement (with CIHR)	1	3	120,000	588,236
SPOR Network in Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations	1	1	25,000	122,500
Total	**12**		**1,116,455**	**1,682,191**

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

OBJECTIVE: Ensure an efficient process for grant review and management

Over the past year, SHRF worked closely with SmartSimple Software to develop a comprehensive online research management system (RMS) that includes online application preparation and submission, review, and reporting. To support applicants, SHRF published a comprehensive user manual as well as program-specific application checklists. To support peer reviewers, SHRF created detailed manuals to guide committee members and external reviewers in using the RMS to review applications and complete evaluations online.

SHRF once again disseminated an online survey to applicants and administrators of establishment and fellowship applications. The feedback will be used to improve SHRF processes and online agency forms where required.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

Taking into account our user feedback, SHRF will continue to enhance the RMS and expand its functions.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

SHRF received strong support and confidence for how it manages its application processes from respondents in the survey in all four areas including: published information about programs; online application forms; communications with SHRF staff; and overall application experience.

SHRF continues to use the Canadian Common CV (CCV) for applicants to our funding programs. This web-based system aims to reduce the workload for the research community by allowing researchers to maintain their CCV data in a single repository and use it to apply to over 30 different funding organizations across Canada. SHRF uses the information in the peer review process. The CCV also populates the Directory of Researchers - an online source of research expertise in Saskatchewan and Canada. The CCV continues to make improvements and SHRF takes part on the CCV Advisory Committee

SHRF consulted with health research leaders at its fourth annual Research Funding Advisory Forums (RFAF) that were held in Saskatoon and Regina. The Forums facilitate a stronger connection to the health research community and provide an opportunity to meet with the Associate Deans of Research in health areas and other senior research administrators to exchange updates, questions, and feedback. A total of 16 people attended the Forums in 2013.

SHRF hosted two "Funding Facts" information sessions in December of 2013; one at the University of Saskatchewan and one at the University of Regina. Both sessions were well attended by researchers and research support personnel. The sessions included a "tour" of the new online Research Management System (RMS).

OBJECTIVE: Support the research community in building human capacity

Health Research Group Grants

SHRF invests in the formation, development, and ongoing support of high-quality research groups. The Health Research Group program supports groups of researchers who comprise an appropriate range of talent, experience, and perspectives for tackling complex health issues of importance to Saskatchewan.

There are three phases:

- Phase I: formation and early;
- Phase II: operating funding to support group growth and productivity; and
- Phase III: sustain groups that have to demonstrate productivity and excellence.

FOCUS FOR 2014-15 AND BEYOND

SHRF will engage with SmartSimple and CCV to look at ways of integrating information directly from the CCV into the researcher profiles and application forms on the RMS.

SHRF plans to continue with its Research Funding Advisory Forum.

SHRF plans to continue with annual information sessions in Saskatoon and Regina in December and will add additional sessions as needed to inform the research community about program offerings in a timely manner.

HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP GRANTS

PHASE I

Mohan Babu
Chemistry and Biochemistry
Science
University of Regina
Cancer Systems Biology Group

Paul Babyn
Medical Imaging
Medicine
Baljit Singh
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
One Health Imaging (OHI)

Jose Tellez-Zenteno
Farzad Moien-Afshari
Lisa Kalynchuk
Neurology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Epilepsy Research Initiative

Sonia Vanderby
Medical Imaging
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Quality in Medical Imaging (QIMI)

PHASE II

Mary Buhr
Agriculture and Bioresources
University of Saskatchewan
University of Saskatchewan Prostate Research Team

PHASE III

Thomas Hadjistavropoulos
Psychology, Arts
University of Regina
Community and Research Alliance for Quality of Life in Older Adults (the QOL Team)

Bonnie Jeffery
Social Work
University of Regina
Nazeem Muhajarine
Community Health and Epidemiology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit (SPHERU)

Helen Nichol
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Gene Expression Mapping using Synchrotron Light (GEMS)

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

SHRF's Postdoctoral Research Fellowship program offers a full-time training opportunity for high-quality candidates in health-related fields. Fellows are supervised by experienced, active researchers to further develop their research skills and equip themselves for a career in health research.

SHRF also partners with agencies to increase the amount of funding available and build capacity in specific research areas. In 2013-14, SHRF offered two opportunities: the Terry Fox Postdoctoral Fellow co-funded by TFRI, and the Crohn's and Colitis Postdoctoral Fellow, co-funded by the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC).

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Azadeh Hatef
Supervised by Suraj Unniappan
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Nesfatin-1 regulation of reproduction

Matthew Jessulat
Supervised by Mohan Babu
Chemistry and Biochemistry Science
University of Regina
Systematic mapping of the mitochondrial protein interaction network

Kalpana Kalyanasundaram Bhanumathy
Terry Fox Postdoctoral Fellow co-funded by Terry Fox Research Institute
Supervised by Jim Xiang
Oncology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
A combinatorial immunotherapy of trastuzumab and HER-2/P30-expressing adenoviral vector vaccine for HER-2/neu-positive breast cancer

Yixi Lu
Supervised by Louise Racine
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Between Chinese traditional medicine and western medicine: A negotiated medical decision making process among mainland Chinese immigrants in Saskatchewan

Marla Mickleborough
Supervised by Paul Babyn
Medical Imaging
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Assessing interictal cognitive effects and cortical excitability in migraine and epilepsy

Edward Narayan
Supervised by Suraj Unniappan
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Nesfatin-1 integration of stress and metabolism

John Schellenberg
Supervised by Janet Hill
Veterinary Microbiology
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Defining epidemiological and clinical relevance of gardnerella vaginalis subgroups in bacterial vaginosis using culture-based and next-generation molecular techniques, building on a unique and growing culture collection from African and Canadian women

Yejun Wang
Supervised by Aaron White
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization
University of Saskatchewan
Connecting salmonella persistence and virulence: examining the role of CsgD in regulating type III secretion

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

Establishment Grants

SHRF's Establishment Grants are awarded to university research faculty who are new or newly resident in Saskatchewan. The grant aims to help them establish independent health research programs within the province and achieve the research productivity necessary to obtain longer term and more substantial funding from other sources.

For the first time, we sought partnerships with other agencies to increase the amount of funding available for our Establishment Grant program. Two establishment grants from the 2013 competition were funded with partners on a 50:50 basis. In partnership with the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, we funded Dr. Paul Bruno in Kinesiology and Health Studies at the University of Regina. Dr. Adelaine Leung in Veterinary Biomedical Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan was funded in partnership with the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan and the Schizophrenia Research Foundation of Saskatchewan (see recipient list for more information).

FOCUSING THE FUTURE

We will continue to seek opportunities to partner with other agencies on well-rated grants through SHRF funding program competitions thereby increasing the number of grants we can fund in total.

ESTABLISHMENT GRANTS

Brenna Bath
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Advancing interprofessional primary health care services in rural settings for people with chronic low back disorders: Investigation of a physiotherapist and nurse practitioner intervention delivered through telehealth

Paul Bruno
co-funded by Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation
Kinesiology and Health Studies
University of Regina
The use of clinical testing procedures in the diagnosis of motor control impairments associated with low back pain

Andrew Cameron
Biology
Science
University of Regina
Characterizing how salmonella and E. coli use free DNA in the intestine: A source of new genes but a repressor of virulence

Michael Kelly
Surgery Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Synchrotron-based imaging to analyse cerebral calcium and biochemical markers of oxidative stress in a mouse photothrombotic stroke model

Marko Kryworuchko
Veterinary Microbiology
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Regulation of programmed cell death in monocytic cells via autophagy and its impact on HIV pathogenesis

Jennifer Kryworuchko
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
The making sure research study: Life support planning with the web-based decision guide (WeDecide)

Adelaine Leung
co-funded by Schizophrenia Research Foundation of Saskatchewan and Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Combating psychiatric diseases: Using DISC1 to identify novel therapeutic treatments for mental disorders

Stephanie Madill
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
A telemetered device to assess continence function and predict therapeutic outcomes in women with urinary incontinence

Francois Meurens
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization
University of Saskatchewan
Establishment of a porcine model to study human genital gonorrhoea and chlamydia

Kelly Penz
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Healthy health care workforces: Testing a model of work engagement and burnout among palliative care nurses in rural and urban practice settings

Thomas Rotter
Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan
The implementation and evaluation of clinical pathways in Saskatchewan

Sonia Udod
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Role stressors and coping strategies of nurse managers in acute care facilities in Saskatchewan and Alberta

Spinal Cord Injury Research Grants

In 2011, Saskatchewan's Ministry of Health provided special initiative funding to address priorities defined in consultation with the Rick Hansen Institute to support translational research in either the clinical and health services or biomedical areas that focuses on improving health outcomes for spinal cord injury (SCI) patients and moving research findings into policy or practice. The first two competitions were held in 2011 and 2013 and based on available resources for this special program, the next competition will take place in 2015.

Research supported must align with at least one of the following four Rick Hansen Institute objectives: reduction of incidence and severity of paralysis; improve health care outcomes; reduction of long term cost; and improve quality of life for those living with SCI. For research in the biomedical stream, these grants provide up to $50,000 per year for two years; grants in the clinical/health services stream are for up to $100,000 per year for two years.

SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH GRANTS

Josef Buttigieg
Biology
Science
University of Regina
Repair of the acute injured spinal cord using transplantation of neural precursor cells and delivery of a novel drug

Alison Oates
Kinesiology
Kristin Musselman
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Walking balance control and falls in the community after incomplete spinal cord injury

Valerie Verge
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
Gillian Muir
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Acute Intermittent Hypoxia - therapeutic potential for cervical spinal cord injuries

Saskatchewan Research Chairs Program

The Saskatchewan Research Chairs Program is intended to attract, support, and retain top-quality research leaders who are working in a provincial priority area and who contribute to capacity building and knowledge sharing in those areas.

SHRF is working to update this program to allow for more flexibility in working with partners. A new draft Chair program document was developed and shared for feedback in 2013 with positive response. SHRF will release the new version of this program once our new strategy is in place.

The Saskatchewan Research Chair in MS Clinical Research may be awarded in 2014-15 in partnership with Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation. This would be a $1 million investment over five years, shared 50:50 with our partner.

TABLE 2

SHRF Program	Received		Recommended		Awarded*		
	No.	$	No.	$	No.	Term (yrs)	$
Postdoctoral Research Fellowships	40	4,000,000	24	2,400,000	8	2	800,000[1]
Establishment Grants	37	4,111,072	21	2,369,193	12	3	1,380,638[2]
Research Connections Grants	18	88,666	17	83,750	17	n/a	83,750
Health Research Groups							
Phase I	5	150,000	4	93,000	4	2	93,000
Phase II	2	599,977	1	299,977	1	3	299,977
Phase III	5	3,717,173	5	3,717,173	3	3	1,717,216
Spinal Cord Injury Research Grants	6	711,784	4	446,412	3		346,412
Total	113	13,378,672	76	9,409,505	48	2	4,720,993

[1] one award in 50% partnership; total partner funding contributions are $50,000

[2] two awards in 50% partnership; total partner funding contributions are $107,692

* Awarded amounts are for the full term of the grant (see also Peer Review section).

OBJECTIVE: Support the research community in building infrastructure capacity

SPOR, led by CIHR, is about ensuring that the right person receives the right intervention at the right time. SHRF continues to participate in a working group that is preparing a business plan to develop a provincial Support Unit for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials (SUPPORT) for submission to CIHR. The group includes members from agencies that will be involved in establishing and running this multi-site platform. CIHR is offering funding over five years which must be matched by provincial investments to establish a provincial SUPPORT. SUPPORT is a locally accessible, multidisciplinary cluster of specialized research resources, policy knowledge, and patient perspective which provides necessary expertise to pursue patient-oriented research and help lead reforms is response to local health care needs.

SHRF will continue to participate as the Saskatchewan SUPPORT takes shape and will designate some funding for research related to this important initiative.

Strategic Goal #3: Encouraging the Sharing and Use of Health Research

SHRF will use its assets and resources to encourage the sharing and use of health research to create health and social benefits.

OBJECTIVE: PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCHERS AND USERS OF RESEARCH TO ENGAGE IN KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

SHRF's Research Connections Grant program supports researchers in connecting with others to share and apply research knowledge through events such as, research days, conferences, public events, and major meetings.

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS GRANTS

Joanne Bracken
Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan
Spotlight on Research: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Lorna Butler
International Centre for Northern Governance & Development
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Building the Scholarship of Remote Presence Telementoring to Extend its Practice in Health Education and Service Delivery

Miroslaw Cygler
Biochemistry
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Protein Structure, Function and Malfunction Conference

Erika Dyck
History Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
Connections and Communities in Health and Medicine: Manitoba-Northwest Ontario-Minnesota-Saskatchewan (MOMS) & Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) Postgraduate/Early Career History of Medicine Conference

Jo-Ann Episkenew
Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre
University of Regina
Miywâyâwin Wâhkôtawin: A Symposium to Build Relationships and Exchange Knowledge of Arts-based Innovations in Aboriginal Health Research

Lori Hanson
Community Health and Epidemiology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Global Health Conference: Merging Minds on Global Health: a multidisciplinary call to action

Christine McDougall
Saskatchewan Cancer Agency Symposium: *"Advancing epidemiology in Saskatchewan: Where to from here?"*

Cory Neudorf
Community Health and Epidemiology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Developing a health equity agenda: From a shared vision to policy and practice

Helen Nichol
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Exploring Health at the Speed of Light

Punam Pahwa
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Addressing and Redressing Issues of Respiratory Health and Housing Among First Nations People: Program & Policy Options

Elan Paluck
Research and Health Information Services
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Research Matters: Facilitating Research Connections

Cindy Peternelj-Taylor
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Custody and Caring: 13th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's role in the Criminal Justice System

Ingrid Pickering
Geological Sciences
Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
CIHR-THRUST 4th Annual Retreat

Sanj Singh
Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce
2020 Health Visions Conference Series: Health Care Innovation

Baljit Singh
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
"Biomarker Development" Workshop & Dinner

Cara Spence Gress
Research and Health Information Services
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Research Showcase 2013
Research Matters

Michelle Stewart
Justice Studies
Arts
University of Regina
FASD at the Frontline: Dialogue and Strategies for New Outcomes

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14

SHRF facilitated the proclamation by the Government of Saskatchewan of "Health Research Week" in 2013. During the week of December 2-8, a number of agencies, including SHRF, publicized contributions made by health researchers in Saskatchewan and raised awareness of the province's health research enterprise.

OBJECTIVE: Communicate SHRF publications and materials to constituents

Based on usability testing, areas of the web site were improved in 2013-14, including the search function, on-line donations and the accessibility of key documents for the Board and for applicants. SHRF continued to maintain an up-to-date site responsive to the needs of the health research community and the general public.

SHRF published its first external magazine *Research for Health* in December 2013. The magazine featured prominent and interesting researcher stories, articles, and updates to appeal to the widest range of provincial readership.

SHRF published: *SHRF Awards Guide 2014: Funding Application and Management Guide*; *RMS User Manual*; the study *Measuring the Value of Saskatchewan's Health Research*; and *Health Research Strategy: Discussion Paper*.

SHRF procured Reach Communications as its agency of record.

OBJECTIVE: Increase number of knowledge translation activities by SHRF-funded researchers.

SHRF went on the road to spread the news about the importance of health research. Through partnerships with the Chambers of Commerce in Melfort, Regina, and Lloydminster, SHRF had the opportunity to present information on the types of research happening in the province. The presentations introduced audiences to five researchers and explained the nature of their research and its importance. Given the quality of the questions posed after the presentations, it was apparent people were engaged and understood that some pressing health issues are being addressed and that Saskatchewan-based health research is contributing to solutions.

119 participants attended the Community Engagement Workshop held by SHRF and partners in Saskatoon on the U of S campus to learn about strategies, processes, and methods for engaging with Aboriginal communities to do health research projects.

FOCUS ON THE NEXT 2014-15

Increase the impact of Health Research Week by acting as a coordinator/convener for all activity considered for promotion and awareness during the week. SHRF is developing a plan that would see initiatives to engage and include researchers, partners, stakeholders and the broader communities across the province.

SHRF will continue to update and maintain a site that provides timely and accurate information for the research community and general public.

SHRF will develop and publish a new five-year strategic plan in 2014 and post the plan and the Stakeholder Consultation and Environmental Scan document to the SHRF website. We will publish the 2nd annual edition of *Research for Health* and are undergoing a revamping of the external newsletter to generate more awareness and interest amongst constituents. SHRF is also exploring the use of appropriate social media channels for reaching broader audiences.

SHRF has hired a Director of Communications and Outreach to assist in implementing knowledge translation models, processes and activities including methods for increasing strong flow of information to relevant government ministries. Our learning from interviews and focus groups, the stakeholder consultations, RFAF meetings and other sources will help ensure we employ best practices.

Two special advisory panels completed their work for SHRF on ways to enhance and strengthen support for two research priority areas identified in the provincial HRS: 1) Aboriginal Peoples' health research; and 2) health services research. The first panel summarized its observations and recommendations in a paper entitled, *Building on Aboriginal Health Research Success in Saskatchewan*. The second shared its advice in a paper entitled *Creating Evidence for Change*. Both papers are available on our website. SHRF will draw on this valuable advice in planning for 2014 and beyond.

SHRF encourages researchers and their institutions to report on research and outcomes. SHRF collaborates with the Universities on news releases and other activities aimed at increasing knowledge translation. In addition, through its five-year follow up study, SHRF tracks the activities of its funded researchers.

OBJECTIVE: Increase public awareness of health research in Saskatchewan

Nearly 175 people attended the 2013 Santé! Awards Evening, SHRF's annual celebration of health research successes and excellence in Saskatchewan. The Achievement Award winner and Top Researcher Awards were announced at the event.

SHRF announced Gregory P. Marchildon as the Achievement Award winner for 2013. Dr. Marchildon has made major contributions to health policy and economics, as well as health services research and history. He has forged a reputation as a leading researcher and commentator on system performance and quality improvement provincially, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Marchildon has made outstanding contributions to Saskatchewan's health research enterprise and to understanding the complexities of our health system. His knowledge and expertise in law, history, economics, and policy has provided all of us with unique insights about the healthcare that's so important to all Canadians.

Top Researcher Awards were given to the top-rated researchers in the biomedical and socio-health, systems, and clinical competitions of the Establishment Grant and Postdoctoral Research Fellowship programs based upon submitted applications that have been peer reviewed and scored.

The top award winners in the Establishment Grant program were:

- Biomedical: Dr. Michael Kelly, neurosurgeon from the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Kelly is imaging an array of elements and chemical groups using synchrotron, X-ray and ultraviolet light to understand stroke better, and to test how new therapies, including stem cell therapy, affect the complex chemistry of the brain; and
- Socio-health, systems, and clinical: Dr. Sonia Udod at the College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Udod's research aims to understand the stress nurse managers are under in order to design support systems that lead to more positive staff experiences in the workplace and to more positive patient experiences.

SHRF will conduct a thorough review and evaluation of the Santé! event and its role in Health Research Week. Strategic plans are underway to create more awareness and increased profile for Health Research Week and SHRF across the province.

The top award winners in the Postdoctoral Fellowship program were:

- Biomedical: Dr. John Schellenberg from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, working with supervisor Dr. Janet Hill. Dr. Schellenberg will investigate the microbiological basis for an extremely common bacterial infection many women face that has a high, but poorly defined significance for reproductive health; and

- Socio-health, systems, and clinical: Dr. Yixi Lu of the College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan in socio-health research, with supervisor Dr. Louise Racine. Dr. Lu is exploring how Chinese traditional medicine and western medicine affect illness management and communication with health care providers for Chinese immigrants in Saskatchewan.

Strategic Goal #4: Achieving Excellence

SHRF will use its assets and resources to ensure that the actions identified in this Strategic Plan are implemented and evaluated.

OBJECTIVE: IMPROVE EFFICIENCIES AND METHODOLOGY OF HEALTH RESEARCH OUTCOMES AND IMPACT DATA

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013-14	HOPES AND PLANS FOR 2014-15
As the 10-year term of the provincial HRS came to an end March 2014, SHRF commissioned a consultant to undertake a detailed and comprehensive stakeholder consultation and environmental scan to gain insight and feedback regarding the province's complex health research landscape. The results of the consultations will provide valuable input into developing a plan that guides the funding and focus of health research in Saskatchewan for the coming years.	SHRF is developing a new strategy to be launched in fall 2014.
SHRF completed and published a study titled *Measuring the Value of Saskatchewan's Health Research*. This study was the culmination of several years work that began with SHRF working with other health research funding agencies and the CAHS to design a method to assess the impact and value of research and its wide-ranging outcomes and benefits. As a member of the National Alliance of Provincial Health Research Organizations (NAPHRO) and a contributor to this foundational work, SHRF demonstrated leadership in the development of indicators that capture the impact of health research and health research funding. The report is available in print and on SHRF's website.	Encourage all active researchers in Saskatchewan to enter and maintain their information in the Directory of Researchers when asked to do so as part of completing their CCV.
In 2013 SHRF engaged an external consultant to examine the outcomes and impacts of SHRF-funded research in Aboriginal health, using the CAHS framework to measure the returns on investment of health research. This framework has been used in studies of research impact in Canada and in other countries and is based on findings that it is more reasonable to assess contributions of individual researchers or funding programs to research impact than to attempt to measure a specific research product.	Using a case study approach similar to SHRF's last publication, *Measuring the Value of Saskatchewan's Health Research*, the agency can describe the importance of this research and tell the stories of how research impacts the health of Aboriginal people. This area is of strategic relevance to the province and SHRF can play an important role by first demonstrating the importance and success of health research, and then supporting more research in this area. The stories will be highlighted in our *Research for Health* publication this year and will be widely promoted to achieve greater provincial awareness and to heighten SHRF's and the health research profile.
Working with the NAPHRO Impact Analysis Group (IAG), SHRF collaborated on a report that utilized common econometric data for all jurisdictions in Canada. Science Metrix completed the econometrics study and final results on provincial share of federal research funding, success rates, patents, licenses, employment, and education were delivered in print, and database form.	SHRF intends to communicate some of the results from recent data it has obtained. Saskatchewan specific data from the NAPHRO econometrics project, the latest bibliometric data, and the public opinion poll on SHRF and health research will be used in various communication pieces.

On behalf of the NAPHRO IAG, SHRF and Alberta Innovates-Health Solutions (AI-HS) presented a vision for what the IAG would like to accomplish in the next three years. Included in this vision is the standardization of reporting funding dollars (i.e., provincially, federal agencies, non-profits) and determining the best way to measure capacity (i.e., number of researchers doing health research).

OBJECTIVE: INCREASE OUTREACH TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS

SHRF maintains ongoing dialogue with the provincial government and participates with key health research related ministries on a regular basis.

SHRF will continue to work with all levels of government to ensure direct dialogue and input is exchanged to foster a healthy environment for Saskatchewan's health research enterprise.

To facilitate the communication and reporting of SHRF-funded research and our programs, SHRF writes summaries of all research being funded and profiles of all researchers and research groups. These summaries and supporting photography are made available on the SHRF website, to Universities, researchers and their home institutions, and to the media.

SHRF received a clean report from the Provincial Auditor, which demonstrates adherence to high standards of accountability and stewardship.

Maintain compliance with the regulations governing SHRF.

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Financial Statements

For the year ending March 31, 2014

REPORT OF MANAGEMENT

Management is responsible for the integrity of the financial information reported by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation.

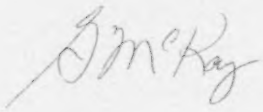
Fulfilling this responsibility requires the preparation and presentation of financial statements and other financial information in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles that are consistently applied, with any exceptions specifically described in the financial statements.

The accounting system used by the Foundation includes an appropriate system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that:

- transactions are authorized;
- the assets of the Foundation are protected from loss and unauthorized use; and
- the accounts are properly kept and financial reports are properly monitored to ensure reliable information is provided for preparation of financial statements and other financial information.

To ensure management meets its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control, board members of the Foundation discuss audit and financial reporting matters with representatives of management at regular meetings. Foundation board members have also reviewed and approved the financial statements with representatives of management.

The Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan had audited the Foundation's statement of financial position, statements of operations, change in net financial assets and cash flow. Her responsibility is to express an opinion on the fairness of management's financial statements. The Auditor's report outlines the scope of her audit and her opinion.



Gordon McKay
Board Chair

Patrick Odnokon
Interim Chief Executive Officer

PROVINCIAL AUDITOR
of Saskatchewan

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: The Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2014, and the statement of operations, change in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for Treasury Board's approval, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation as at March 31, 2014, and the results of its operations, changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Judy Ferguson

Regina, Saskatchewan
June 26, 2014

Judy Ferguson, FCA
Acting Provincial Auditor

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www.auditor.sk.ca

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31

	2014	2013
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Schedule 2)	$ 524,849	$ 96,688
Accrued interest receivable	56,804	67,716
Accounts receivable	150,863	200,937
Short-term investments (Schedule 2)	2,700,000	2,116,000
Long-term investments (Schedule 2)	2,756,752	3,460,061
	6,189,268	5,941,402
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	387,695	35,741
Payroll liabilities	11,297	16,286
Grants payable	5,428,259	4,847,862
	5,827,251	4,899,889
Net financial assets	362,017	1,041,513
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 3)	76,100	29,795
Prepaid expenses	21,329	15,613
	97,429	45,408
Accumulated surplus	$ 459,446	$ 1,086,921

Commitments (Schedule 3, Notes 2(d), and 5)

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year Ended March 31

	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual
	(Note 10)		
Revenues			
Government Contributions			
Ministry of Health	$ 5,784,000	$ 5,783,999	$ 5,783,999
Ministry of Advanced Education	400,000	400,000	400,000
Health Quality Council	60,000	60,000	60,000
Non-Government Contributions			
Alzheimer's Society of Saskatchewan	100,000	100,000	100,000
Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation	-	47,694	
Canadian Chron's & Colitis Foundation	25,000	-	-
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	100,000	100,000	100,000
Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation	100,000	-	-
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan	-	20,000	
Terry Fox Research Institute	50,000	25,000	25,000
Donations and sponsorships	20,000	9,905	4,700
Other revenue (Note 7)	144,641	245,333	317,533
Total Revenues	6,783,641	6,791,931	6,791,232
Expenses			
Research funding			
Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation programs	3,560,000	3,987,360	3,816,362
Partnership programs (Note 6)	1,746,000	1,642,455	1,408,573
Program support	277,865	220,423	204,985
Dissemination and promotion	295,372	247,375	261,789
Impact & evaluation	204,736	140,571	134,232
Leadership and management			
Board	48,148	34,980	30,580
Administrative	1,013,894	1,146,242	819,598
Total Expenses (Schedule 1)	7,146,015	7,419,406	6,676,119
Return of grant to Finance (Note 12)	-	-	(5,000,000)
Annual deficit	$ (362,374)	(627,475)	(4,884,887)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		1,086,921	5,971,808
Accumulated surplus, end of year		$ 459,446	$ 1,086,921

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS

For the Year Ended March 31

	2014	2013
Annual deficit	$ (627,475)	$ (4,884,887)
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(83,576)	(2,609)
Disposal of capital assets	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	37,271	20,048
	(46,305)	17,439
Acquisiton of prepaid expense	(84,984)	(87,744)
Use of prepaid expense	79,268	81,233
	(5,716)	(6,511)
Decrease in net financial assets	(679,496)	(4,873,959)
Net financial assets, beginning of year	1,041,513	5,915,472
Net financial assets, end of year	$ 362,017	$ 1,041,513

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended March 31

	2014	2013
Operating transactions		
Annual deficit	$ (627,475)	$ (4,884,887)
Non-cash items included in annual surplus:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	37,271	20,048
Bond amortization	3,309	(6,120)
Net change in non-cash working capital items:		
Accrued interest receivable	10,912	(6,605)
Accounts receivable	50,074	(127,033)
Prepaid expenses	(5,716)	(6,511)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	351,954	(46,885)
Payroll liabilities	(4,989)	(1,657)
Grants payable	580,397	(337,592)
Cash provided/(used) by operating transactions	395,737	(5,397,242)
Capital transactions		
Cash used to acquire tangible capital assets	(83,576)	(2,609)
Proceeds from disposal of capital assets	-	-
Cash used by capital transactions	(83,576)	(2,609)
Investing transactions		
Purchase of investments	(2,850,000)	(5,078,437)
Proceeds from disposal and redemption of investments	2,966,000	5,269,506
Cash provided by investing transactions	116,000	191,069
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	428,161	(5,208,782)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	96,688	5,305,470
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	$ 524,849	$ 96,688

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2014

1. Establishment of the Foundation

On January 31, 2003, *The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Act* (S.S. 2002, c.S-21.1) came into force establishing the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (Foundation). The Foundation is responsible for organizing, managing and allocating most provincial health research funding in Saskatchewan and for ensuring that supported research fits with the Province's health research priorities and leads to benefits for health and the health system in Saskatchewan. The Foundation is the lead agency on implementing the provincial Health Research Strategy.

2. Accounting Policies

Pursuant to standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), the Foundation is classified as an "other government organization." The Foundation uses generally accepted accounting principles applicable to government. The following accounting principles are considered to be significant.

a) Revenue

The Foundation's main revenue for operations is contributions from the Ministry of Health with other revenue coming from partnerships, interest, recoveries and miscellaneous revenue.

Contributions from the Ministry of Advanced Education are used for federal partnership opportunities such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Regional Partnership Program (RPP) and the CIHR Partnerships for Health System Improvement Program (PHSI) (see note 6).

Funds not spent during the term of a research grant or award comprise recoveries if the expense was recognized in the prior years.

Government contributions are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized and any eligibility criteria are met, except to the extent that contribution stipulations give rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Contributions are recognized as deferred revenue when contribution stipulations give rise to a liability. Contributions are recognized in the statement of operations as the stipulation liabilities are settled.

b) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements, in accordance with public sector accounting standards, requires the Foundation's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of commitments at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

c) Tangible capital assets

The recognition and measurement of tangible capital assets is based on their service potential. Purchases of furniture and office equipment over $250 and computer hardware and software over $500 are recorded at cost as a capital asset. Purchases below these amounts are expensed as incurred. Amortization is recorded on a straight-line basis as follows:

Furniture	10 years
Office Equipment	5 years
Computer Hardware and Software	3 years
Leasehold Improvements	length of lease

Normal maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

d) Research grants and awards expense

Grants and awards expense is recorded when eligibility has been determined and the grant and or award has been authorized. Awarded funds are sent to the recipients' home institution to manage and disburse. Funds not spent during the term of a research grant or award reduce the respective expense if the expense was recognized in the same year.

Internally administered awards:
The Foundation holds annual funding competitions through which applications are adjudicated by experts based on excellence and relevance. Terms vary and are often multi-year. For internally administered multi-year grants and awards, the Foundation assesses eligibility and provides authorization on a yearly basis (see Schedule 3, Schedule of Future Research Funding Commitments).

Externally administered awards:
For some partnership programs, the Foundation's partner administers the grants and awards. For example, CIHR currently administers RPP and PHSI grants and awards. For externally administered multi-year grants and awards, the Foundation records the full amount of the expense in the year that authorization for funding is received from CIHR.

e) Investments

Investments are valued at amortized cost.

f) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

3. Tangible Capital Assets

	Furniture and Equipment	Leasehold Improvements	2014 Totals	2013 Totals
Opening cost	$ 131,713	$ 48,848	$ 180,561	$ 189,338
Additions during the year	83,576	-	83,576	2,609
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	(11,386)
Closing cost	215,289	48,848	264,137	180,561
Opening accumulated amortization	101,918	48,848	150,766	142,104
Amortization for the year	37,271	-	37,271	20,048
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	(11,386)
Closing accumulated amortization	139,189	48,848	188,037	150,766
Net book value of tangible capital assets	$ 76,100	$ -	$ 76,100	$ 29,795

4. Designated Assets

At March 31, 2014, the Foundation was holding $206,177 as designated assets to be disbursed for the Quality Improvement Chair-$198,000 and the Spinal Cord Chair-$8,177 in future years.

5. Lease Commitments

At March 31, 2014, the Foundation had the following lease commitments:

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Office Lease*	$ 160,691	$ 169,377	$ 178,063	$ 89,032	$ -
Postage meter lease	1,986	1,986	1,986	1,986	1,159
	$ 162,677	$ 171,363	$ 180,049	$ 91,018	$ 1,159

*The office lease was renewed for 5 years during 2012-13.

6. Partnerships

The Foundation periodically enters into funding partnerships, often spanning more than one year, to help achieve its goals and objectives. In 2013-14 the Foundation provided research funding through the following partnerships:

a) **Saskatchewan –CIHR Regional Partnership Program (RPP)**
This partnership started in 1999 and extended to 2014. The Foundation matched funding from the CIHR-RPP on a 1:1 basis to support Saskatchewan researchers and research projects. In addition to funds from the Ministry of Health, the Foundation used funds from the Ministry of Advanced Education for federal matching opportunities.

b) **CIHR Partnerships for Health System Improvement Program (PHSI)**
Since 2005-06, the Foundation and CIHR have been in partnership to support teams of researchers and decision makers interested in conducting applied and policy-relevant health research useful to health system managers and/or policy makers and strengthening the Canadian health care system. Funding is matched on a 1:4 basis by the Foundation and CIHR respectively.

c) **Saskatchewan Research Chairs**
Since 2009-10, the Foundation has been funding a five-year Saskatchewan Research Chair in Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementia, in a 1:1 funding partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan. The Foundation receives the partner's contribution on a quarterly basis, expenses the chair awards on an annual basis, and sends the partner and Foundation funds together to the award holder's home institution. A five-year Saskatchewan Research Chair for Clinical Stroke Research was awarded in 2012-13 in equal partnership with the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The Foundation has another research chair partnership where the award has not yet been made. Partner funds flow to the Foundation when there is a successful candidate in place.

d) **Other Partnered Grants**
During 2013-14, the Foundation partnered 1:1 with the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation on a $95,385 grant and also started an equal partnership with the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan (SSS), and the Schizophrenia Research Foundation of Saskatchewan (SRFS) on a $120,000 establishment grant.

7. Other Revenue

In 2013-14, other revenue generated by the Foundation included interest of $108,638, rental revenue of $25,877, recoveries of $105,099 and additional internally generated revenues of $5,719.

8. Related Party Transactions

Included in these financial statements are transactions with various Saskatchewan Crown Corporations, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions related to the Foundation by virtue of common control by the Government of Saskatchewan, and non-Crown corporations and enterprises subject to joint control or significant influence by the Government of Saskatchewan (collectively referred to as "related parties").

Routine operating transactions with related parties are recorded at the agreed upon rates charged by those organizations and are settled on normal trade terms. These transactions and amounts outstanding at year-end are as follows:

	2014	2013
Miscellaneous revenue:		
Canadian Light Source	$ -	$ 1,500
Health Quality Council	60,000	60,000
University of Regina	-	19
University of Saskatchewan	130,975	129,881
Research grant, administrative and occupancy expenses:		
Capital Pension Plan - employee benefits	51,206	44,731
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Regina	-	3,500
Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation – Innovation Place	174,707	167,460
SaskTel	9,111	9,247
University of Regina	1,232,186	673,003
University of Saskatchewan	4,409,095	4,545,302
Other	2,737	2,173
Accounts receivable	1,674	15,094
Investments	-	200,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	20,440	13,068
Grants payable	5,428,259	4,847,862

The Foundation pays Provincial Sales Tax to the Ministry of Finance on all its taxable purchases. Taxes paid are recorded as part of the cost of those purchases.

Other transactions with related parties and amounts due to or from them are described separately in these financial statements and the notes thereto.

9. Financial Instruments

The Foundation has the following financial instruments: accrued interest receivable, accounts receivable, investments, accounts payable, and grants payable. The following paragraphs disclose the significant aspects of these financial instruments. The Foundation has policies and procedures in place to mitigate the associated risks.

a) Significant terms and conditions

There are no significant terms and conditions associated with the financial instruments, other than investments, that may affect the amount, timing, and certainty of future cash flows. Significant terms and conditions for investments are described separately in these financial statements and the accompanying notes.

b) Interest rate risk

The Foundation is exposed to interest rate risk when the value of its financial instruments fluctuates due to changes in market interest rates. As the Foundation primarily holds Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GIC's) and bonds, and seldom disposes of investments prior to maturity, this risk is minimal.

The Foundation's receivables and payables are non-interest bearing. Due to the short-term nature of these, as well as cash and short-term investments, interest rate risk is minimal. As market interest rates fluctuate the market value of long-term investments moves in the opposite direction. This risk will affect the price the Foundation could sell the investments for prior to maturity.

c) Credit risk

The Foundation is exposed to credit risk from potential non-payment of accounts receivable or investment income and principal.

Most of the Foundation's receivables are from the provincial government; therefore the credit risk is minimal.

The Foundation's investments consist of provincial and federal government bonds, promissory notes, treasury bills and bankers acceptances with large Canadian banks. Therefore, credit risk for investments and related accrued interest receivable is minimal.

d) Fair value

For the following financial instruments, the carrying amounts approximate fair value due to their immediate or short-term nature:

- Accrued interest receivable
- Accounts receivable
- Short-term investments
- Accounts payable
- Grants payable

The fair value of long-term investments is $2,756,752 (2012-13 $3,460,061). The fair value is considered to approximate quoted market values.

10. Budget

The operating budget was approved by the Foundation's Board on April 12, 2013.

11. Pension Plan

The Foundation is a participating employer in the Capital Pension Plan, a defined contribution pension plan. Eligible employees make monthly contributions of 7% of gross salary with the Foundation contributing 7.5% of gross salary. The Foundation's financial obligation is limited to making required contributions. During the year, the Foundation's total contributions were $51,206 (2012-13 $44,731).

12. Return of grant to Saskatchewan Finance

In 2012-13, the Foundation returned $5M to Saskatchewan Finance which was originally targeted for Multiple Sclerosis(MS) liberation clinical trials. These funds were recognized as revenue in 2011-12, in the course of adopting PSAB standard PS3410 – Government Transfers.

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES BY OBJECT

For the Year Ended March 31

	2014		2013
	Budget	**Actual**	Actual
	(Note 10)		
Advertising and promotion	$ 47,500	$ 21,619	$ 25,948
Amortization	59,646	37,271	20,048
Board expenses	48,148	34,980	30,580
Employee benefits	155,522	140,064	137,729
Employee salaries	820,605	982,245	692,242
Grants and awards	5,306,000	5,629,815	5,224,936
Office expenses	76,333	63,061	58,310
Office space	175,191	160,897	153,534
Professional fees	294,775	243,612	226,706
Publications	41,600	29,557	26,719
Review committee expenses	27,150	19,467	18,431
Travel and meetings	93,545	56,818	60,936
	$ 7,146,015	$ 7,419,406	$ 6,676,119

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

As at March 31, 2014

	Maturity Date	Carrying Value	Effective Rate
Cash and cash equivalents:			
Cash		$ 64,059	
TD Waterhouse - cash		460,790	
		524,849	
Short-term investments:			
AGF Trust GIC	21-Apr-2014	100,000	2.210
Canadian Western Bank GIC	21-Apr-2014	100,000	2.200
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	1-May-2014	400,000	1.900
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	4-Jun-2014	500,000	1.350
Royal Bank of Canada GIC	14-Jul-2014	500,000	1.650
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	24-Nov-2014	300,000	2.050
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	9-Dec-2014	400,000	1.430
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	7-Feb-2015	400,000	1.430
		2,700,000	
Long-term investments:			
Manulife Bank GIC	1-May-2015	100,000	2.350
Royal Bank of Canada GIC	1-May-2015	200,000	2.150
Equitable Trust GIC	1-May-2015	100,000	2.350
Royal Bank GIC	13-Jul-2015	350,000	1.900
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	9-Oct-2015	250,000	2.200
BMO Advisor Advantage GIC	17-Dec-2015	700,000	1.730
Canadian Tire Bank GIC	12-Jul-2016	100,000	2.350
Royal Bank of Canada GIC	12-Jul-2016	100,000	2.100
Toronto Dominion Bank-bond	2-Aug-2016	356,752	2.948
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	9-Oct-2016	500,000	2.300
		2,756,752	
		$ 5,981,601	

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE RESEARCH FUNDING COMMITMENTS

As at March 31, 2014

The Future Research Funding commitments at March 31, 2014 were as follows: Note 2(d)

YEAR		SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION PROGRAMS
2015	$	2,445,193
2016		901,915
2017		326,000
	$	3,673,108

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

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